

The Representative Payee Program's goal

is to promote independent living for mentally and physically disabled adults on limited income who are unable to manage their Social Security or other government benefit because of their disability. To accomplish this goal, the Representative Payee Program recruits, trains and supervises volunteers who help manage these funds for the program's clients.

The Mental Health Association is a private, nonprofit, United Way (#8151) organization serving Montgomery County residents and concerned with mental health and mental wellness. Recognized as an authority and advocate for over 45 years in the mental health field, the Association currently provides education and advocacy in community and workplace settings in addition to managing **13 major direct service programs for children, teens, families, senior adults and individuals with long-term mental illness.** Over 1,000 volunteers implement programs under the direction of the Association's professional staff.



Mental Health Association
Serving Montgomery County Residents

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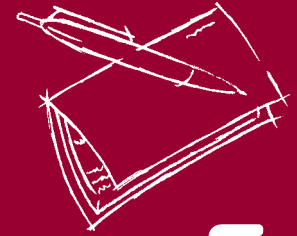
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"Great Place to Work"
Washingtonian Magazine

United Way/CFC #8151 

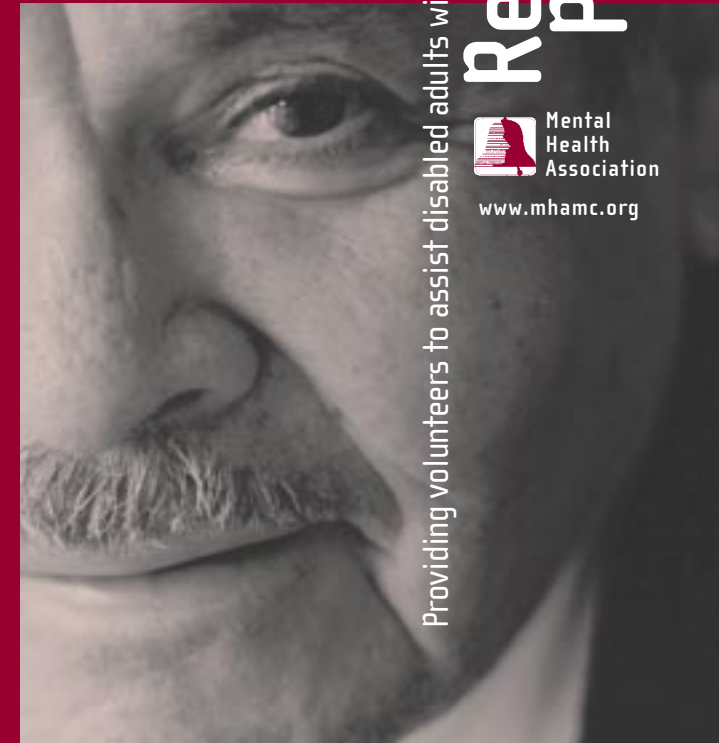


Representative Payee Program

Providing volunteers to assist disabled adults with monthly budgeting & bill paying

 Mental Health Association

www.mhamc.org



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Who does the Program Serve?

The Representative Payee Program serves Montgomery County residents age 18 and older who are most vulnerable to financial exploitation or neglect: those who are isolated, have mental or physical disabilities and limited income from Social Security, Supplemental Security Income or other government benefit. Clients are referred to the program by social workers, case managers and mental health professionals.

How does the Program Help?

The inability to manage money can have a serious negative impact on a person who suffers from a mental or physical disability. Failure to pay rent and monthly bills can mean loss of utility services, credit termination and eviction.

The Representative Payee Program knows that a concerned volunteer, given proper training and supervision, can manage the monthly benefits of a vulnerable person. Each program client is matched with a volunteer who is appointed by the benefit agency to be the client's Representative Payee. The volunteer receives the client's benefit check, deposits it in a bank, and pays the client's bills. The bank account is monitored by Representative Payee Program staff and the client's funds are insured by AARP.

The Volunteers

Volunteers must be well organized and have good basic math skills. They must be able to work with individuals with a variety of disabling conditions. Volunteers spend between six and eight hours a month providing money management services for their client. Volunteers are thoroughly trained and actively supervised by Representative Payee Program staff.

About the Representative Payee Program

The Representative Payee Program was developed by and is operated in conjunction with the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP). AARP is the nation's leading organization for people age 50 and older, both working and retired. The program is funded by the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services-Division of Aging and Disability Services and private contributions.

The Representative Payee Program is a free service offered by the Mental Health Association to provide help for Montgomery County residents on limited income who have no relatives or friends to assist them.

